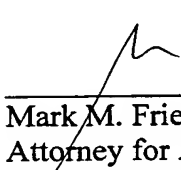


## REMARKS

In view of the amendments and the remarks previously filed on January 17, 2006, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1-7 and 9-27 are now in condition for allowance. Prompt notice of allowance is respectfully and earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: February 6, 2006